

## **For the record: Using participatory research methods to explore parent experience and perspectives of clinical negligence**

This paper will discuss a current research project into the parent/participant/claimant perspective of the process of pursuing a claim for clinical negligence. The debates that surround clinical negligence easily transcend across a variety of disciplines. The primary agents are law, (Dow & Lill, 2007) medicine and its associated professions, (Creamer, 2007; Symon, 1998) government departments such as the National Audit Office (NAO) '*Handling Clinical Negligence Claims in England*' (2001) and to a lesser extent medical sociology (Rosenthal et al, 1999). However, once the concept of clinical negligence is unpacked it becomes clear that there are many other stakeholders, such as those interested in media ethics, (Danesi, 2002) social policy, (Pleasence et al, 2003) economics, (Fenn et al 2004) and the built environment, (Milner & Madigan, 2004). Although the subject of clinical negligence has a place either at a major or minor level across many disciplines, most of the literature which supports the discourse has its origins in either obstetric medicine or law and any account of the injured parties, or their primary carers, has only been documented through speculative perspective.

This qualitative study explores the subject from the perspective of the injured party/claimant and examines the impact that the claim has upon their access to and experience of statutory services.

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